

Aerial Delivery and Field Services Department

US Army Quartermaster Center and School

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Tri-annual Malfunction Review and Safety Analysis Board Conducted 21-22 October 1998.

1. CW4 John Mahon, ADFSD, convened the board, and made administrative remarks. MAJ Roe Grigley, Deputy Director, ADFSD, and AF MSGT Al Wagner gave further administrative remarks.

2. CW4 Mahon announced the following events:

- Evening social, 1700
- Rigger Ball, June or October 1999

3. CW4 Mahon advised of the status of the following:

- C-130J testing continues. In tests of towplate-initiated airdrop, platforms are hanging up in the rail system, and problems continue with the computerized towplate release. Personnel tests have been moved to December 98. Expect limitations on ramp jumping.
- The universal static line will probably not become reality in the near future. The 20-foot static line has been successfully tested on the C-141 and C-17. Only the 15-foot is used on the C-130. The new C-130J-30 will probably use the 20-foot static line. Both static lines may be used with the C-141, but they are not to be mixed on the same aircraft.
- No universal towplate release exists.
- Modified Reserve Parachute System. All operational parachutes have been modified to correct the ripcord handle problem. Cost of the fix has cut into funds for replacing the old reserve parachutes. If your unit needs to order these reserves, a few can still be requisitioned from Soldier Systems Command at the full price. Expect delays once this stock of 4,000 is exhausted.
- Testing is underway on the Extraction Parachute Jettison Device.
- CW4 Mahon introduced Dave Norris, who replaces Norm Bruneau at Directorate of Combat Developments, CASCOM, FT Lee.

4. MG James M. Wright presented the Legion of Merit to CW3 Thomas Snoddy (Ret). Gary Thibault of Natick Army Labs presented a gift to Mr. Snoddy. Mr. Snoddy introduced his mother and brother, and expressed his gratitude.

5. MAJ Acker, TRADOC, FT Eustis advised:

- The Towed Personnel Retrieval System will be aboard every aircraft dropping parachutists. Development is aiming for a 400-pound retrieval capability, for door or ramp retrieval.
- An Airborne Integrated Concept Team must coordinate Airdrop development. New technology, such as guided parafoils, can be more quickly funded and fielded with improved coordination.

6. CW3 Kendall of Soldier Systems Command, Natick asked for comments on the G-12E centering line. None were offered.

- Expect shortages and raised prices for cotton duck cloth.

- The correct arming lanyard wire for M-1 releases is shiny silver. Copper or dull silver wire must be discarded.

7. Ms Stacy Cline of the Association of Quartermasters explained the organization's purpose and the benefits of membership.

8. CW3 Kendall further advised:

- The G-13 parachute goes out of service December 1999.

- Reliability of the AR square has been satisfactory since its introduction in 1996. Because of several incidents, the Army is not now using it. Tests are underway. Make known any requests for training on the alternative, the FF2.

- Requisition your MIRPS quickly. Mr. Mahon adds that the school is teaching both the old and new reserve parachute packing and maintenance procedures. Certification training on the MIRPS is under discussion for scheduling and funding.

9. MSGT Al Wagner, FT Lee, and SFC Murray of Natick advise that M-1 release timer lock holes drilled too close are sufficiently strong and should not preclude use of the release. Gary Thibault of Natick stated that toggle lock slides with bent pins are repaired by bending the pins straight. He asked for incidences of Army premature release problems, but suggested that such problems occurred with AF unilateral training loads, which seem to be denser for their size.

10. CW3 Lindo of ABN Special Operations and Test Directorate, FT Bragg, advised that FMTV rigging problems have been addressed and procedures are ready to be rewritten. 2 1/2 and 5-ton trucks will be test- dropped empty and with 105-mm and 155-mm ammunition loads. Testing with typical unit equipment is contemplated.

11. GYSGT Crane of the Navy Safety Center stated that CH53-series helicopters are not being used for MC5 parachute drops until problems with deployment bags striking and interfering with jumpers are resolved. Adding 5 feet to the static line extension, holding airspeed to 100 knots and a 10-degree ramp angle are thought to control these problems. A film was shown later in the meeting to document this problem.

12. Don Stump, DA, advised those proposals for changes and waivers to AR's 59-4 and 750-32 are submitted through the chain of command to his office, but that he is informed of them as well. Mr. Mahon added that a supplement or waiver can make a regulation more restrictive, but cannot broaden the intent of the reg.

13. MAJ Acker of TRADOC suggested that he might be of help in dealing with beaureacratc logjams, and gave his E-mail address: ackerm@monroe.army.mil or kozara@monroe.army.mil.

14. CW4 Marty Neises of SBCCOM, Natick gave an organizational chart, mission statements, and POC numbers for Natick personnel involved in airdrop.

15. SFC Richard Santiago, Webmaster, Aerial Delivery and Fld Svcs Dept, QMC&S, FT Lee, advised that some of the 63 airdrop manuals available at the FT Lee website might be temporarily unavailable as a search is being conducted for sensitive material. No airdrop material is expected to be affected. The user may access the FT Lee website using any Internet provider. Military E-mail is limited in size to 5 Megs. 1670-series manuals are not available on the net. Viewing 1748 forms on your computer is limited to 640x480, but necessary because most users are limited to 14-inch screens.

16. CW2 Quitman Jackson, 647th QM, FT Bragg offered a severed extraction line for inspection and discussion. He also seeks procedures for ordering the EFTC latch assembly as a separate item. Steve Manos of Natick, and Dick Harper at Ft Bragg offered help with the problem.

17. CW4 Art Waldo, XVIII ABN Corps Parachute Office, FT Bragg asked, if the G-13 is grounded, what parachute to use on door bundles. The answer seems to be the T-10, the 24-foot reserve modified for cargo, and the G-14.

18. A film on components and installation of the Towed Personnel Retrieval System was shown by the Air Force.

19. CW4 Mahon pointed out, after the Navy Safety office film on the CH53 matter, that Army and Air Force safety centers did not get the word. Responsible parties were advised to address such problems in the future.

20. CW4 Mahon showed a film of an experimental program to extract a 32- or 44-foot missile from an aircraft. Dual row

platform airdrop from the C-17 is also being tested.

21. Questions were fielded by CW4 Mahon on various topics such as supply problems, and JAI.

22. One hundred twenty attendees reviewed 67 personnel and equipment malfunctions.

John W. Mahon

CW4, QM

Airdrop Systems Technician